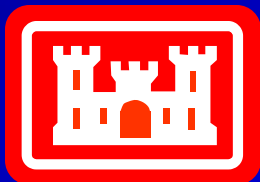
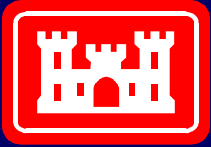


Watershed Initiatives in Georgia



Presented by Colonel Roger A. Gerber
Commander, Savannah District



Mission Functions Water Resources



Ecosystem Restoration

- ◆ Fish & Wildlife
- ◆ Water Quality
- ◆ Wetlands



Regulatory

- ◆ 404 Permits and other permits

Support for Others

- ◆ Shore Protection
- ◆ Navigation



Flood Control

- ◆ Flood Damage Prevention
- ◆ Flood Plain Management
- ◆ Water Supply
- ◆ Recreation



Shore Protection

- ◆ Hurricane Protection
- ◆ Storm Damage Prevention



Disaster Response

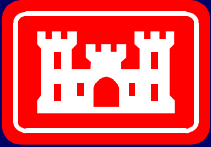
- ◆ Natural & manmade disasters



Navigation

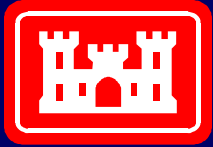
- ◆ Commercial Deep Draft Harbors
- ◆ Inland Waterways
- ◆ Small-craft Harbors





Authorities

- ◆ **Projects specifically authorized by Congress under the General Investigation (GI) Program**
 - ❖ **Comprehensive Studies**
 - **Savannah River Basin Comprehensive Study**
 - ❖ **Watershed Studies**
- ◆ **Projects authorized by Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) – delegated to Chief of Engineers**
 - ❖ **Sec 206 – Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration (Water Resources Development Act of 1996)**
 - ❖ **Sec 1135 – Small Ecosystem Restoration (Water Resources Development Act of 1986)**



Planning Assistance to States

Savannah District

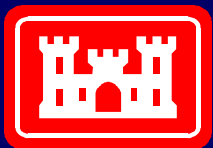
Section 22 (Water Resources Development Act of 1974)

Purpose:

- ◆ To provide state and local agencies with technical planning assistance related to water resource development plans
- ◆ Proposed national funding for FY 2003 is \$6.5 M

Program requires:

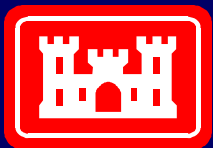
- ◆ 50 - 50 Cost-sharing
- ◆ Letter of Agreement
- ◆ Cost not to exceed \$500k per year per state or Indian Tribe



Context for Federal Involvement

Savannah District

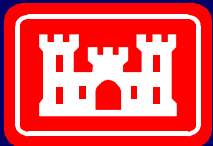
- ◆ **Water Resource Management should remain under state and local control**
- ◆ **Water issues invite Federal participation due to scope, technical complexity, and public involvement**
- ◆ **A Watershed approach is key to future development, protection, and restoration of America's water resources**



Federal Agency Roles

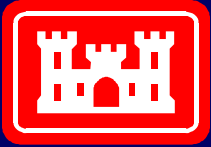
Savannah District

- ◆ **Promote ecosystem health**
- ◆ **Facilitate and assist non-Federal entities that require special resources or mediation**
- ◆ **Support public infrastructure system reliability**
- ◆ **Provide national-level information**
- ◆ **Encourage the highest levels of science and research**
- ◆ **Promote solutions through partnerships – both public and private sector**



Why Watershed Planning in GA?

- ◆ **Expect 22% growth in Southeast states through 2010**
- ◆ **26.4% population growth in GA from 1990-2000**
- ◆ **Metro Atlanta growth larger than 44 States 1990-2000 (1.2 million people)**

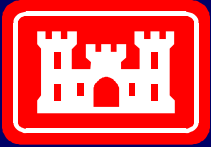


Challenges

Savannah District

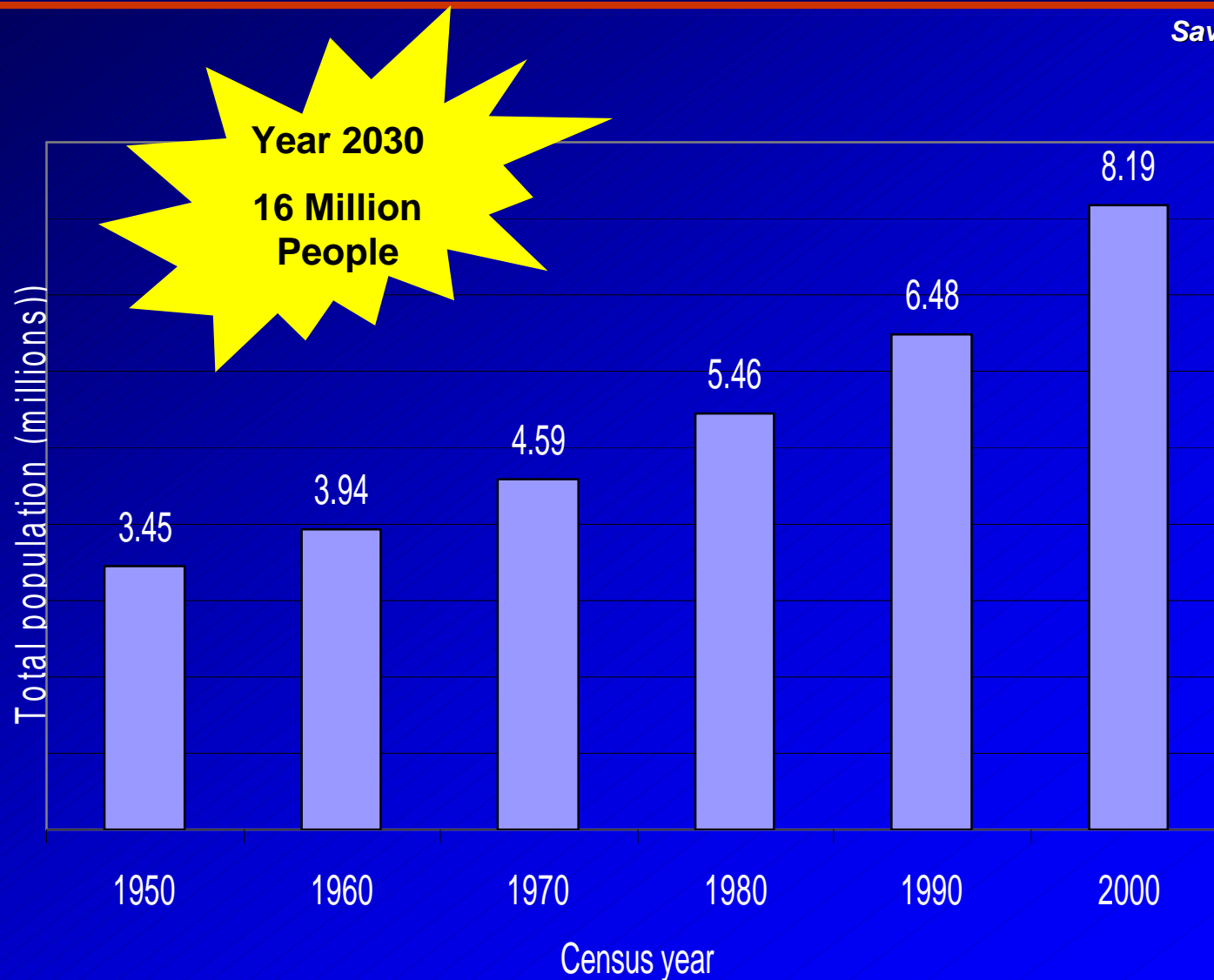
- ◆ Increased Population
- ◆ Impaired Waters
- ◆ Reservoir Permits
- ◆ Regional Drought





Population Growth in Georgia

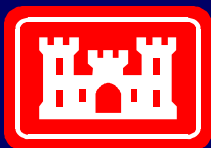
Savannah District



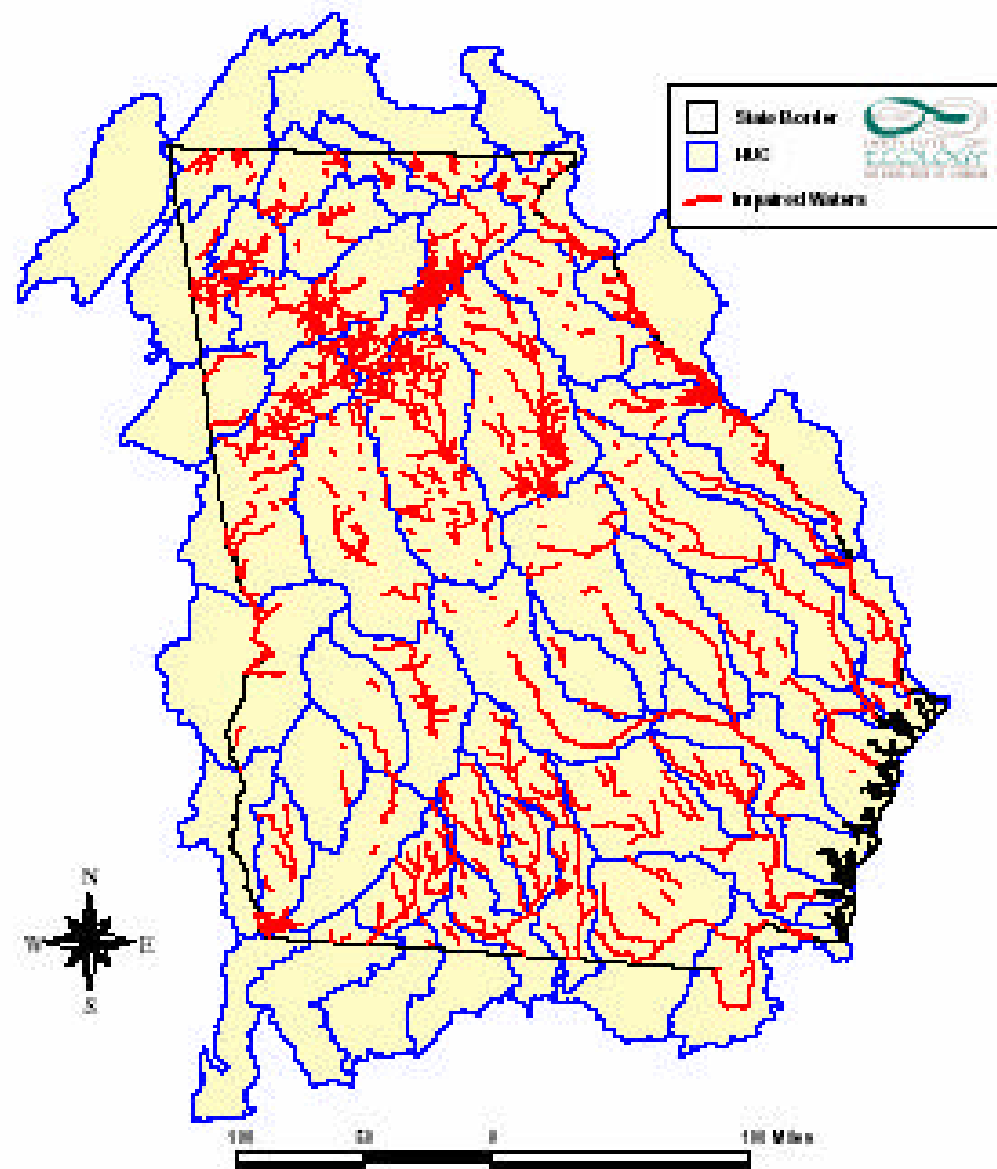
[illegible]

- ◆ **Chattahoochee River**
- ◆ **Flint River**
- ◆ **Coosa River**
- ◆ **Tallapoosa River**
- ◆ **Oconee River**
- ◆ **Savannah River**
- ◆ **Ogeechee River**

- ◆ Ochlockonee River
- ◆ Suwannee River
- ◆ Satilla River
- ◆ St. Mary's River
- ◆ Ocmulgee River
- ◆ Altamaha River
- ◆ Tennessee River



Georgia Impaired Waters, 2000



Cartography by Kevin Samples

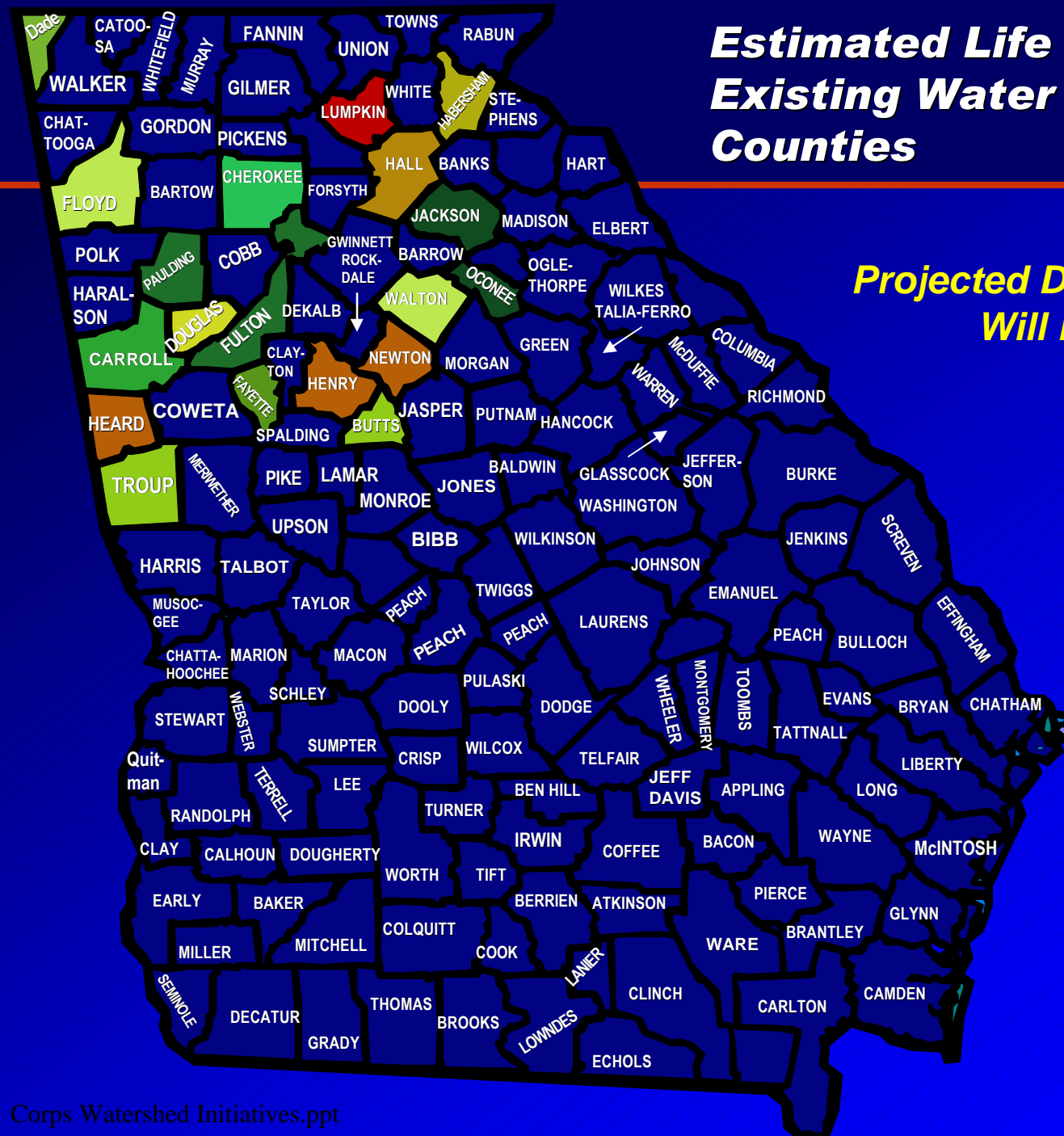
Source: Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Savannah District

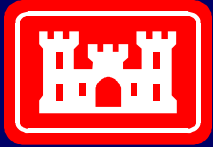
Estimated Life Expectancy for Existing Water Supplies in Select Counties

Savannah District

Projected Date Water Capacity Will Be Exceeded



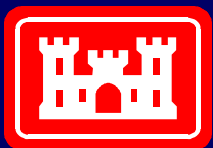
Source: GA EPD



Corps Water Reservoir Permits

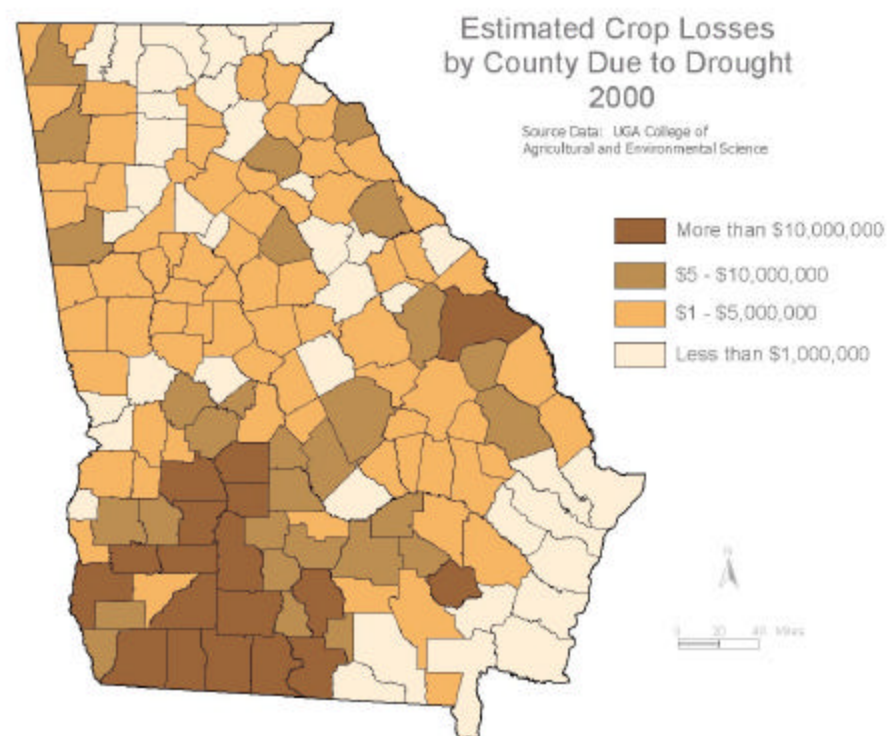
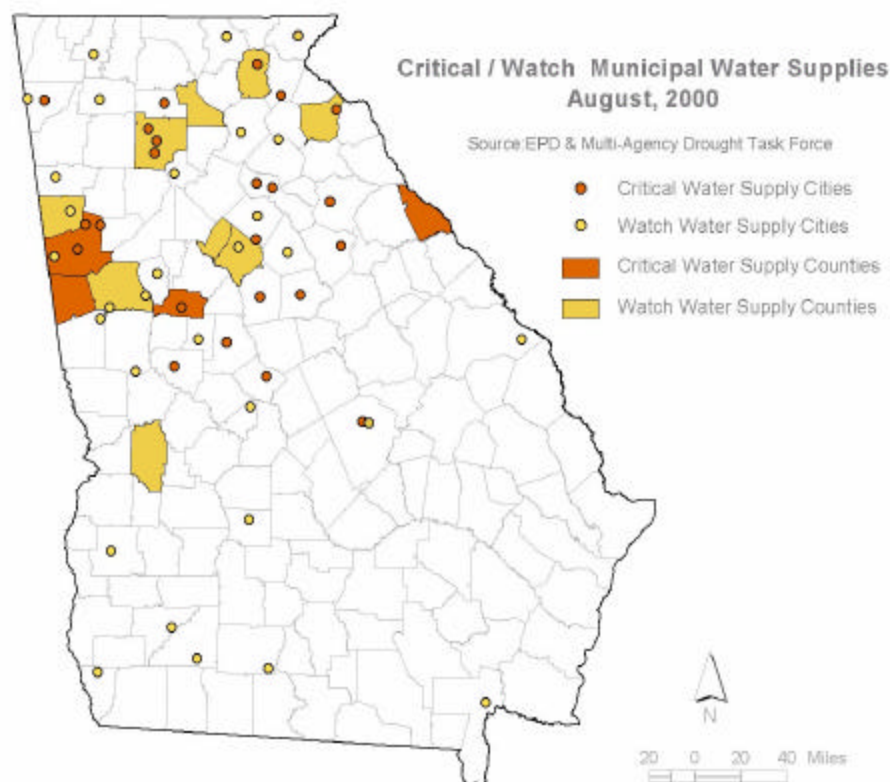
Savannah District

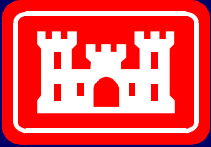
- ◆ **20 Water Reservoir Permits issued between 1989-2003**
- ◆ **Seven are Pending**
- ◆ **Difficult to measure impacts**
- ◆ **Interstate agreements will impact future water allocations within Georgia**
- ◆ **Conflict over Federal Reservoir Management**



Water Stresses Drought

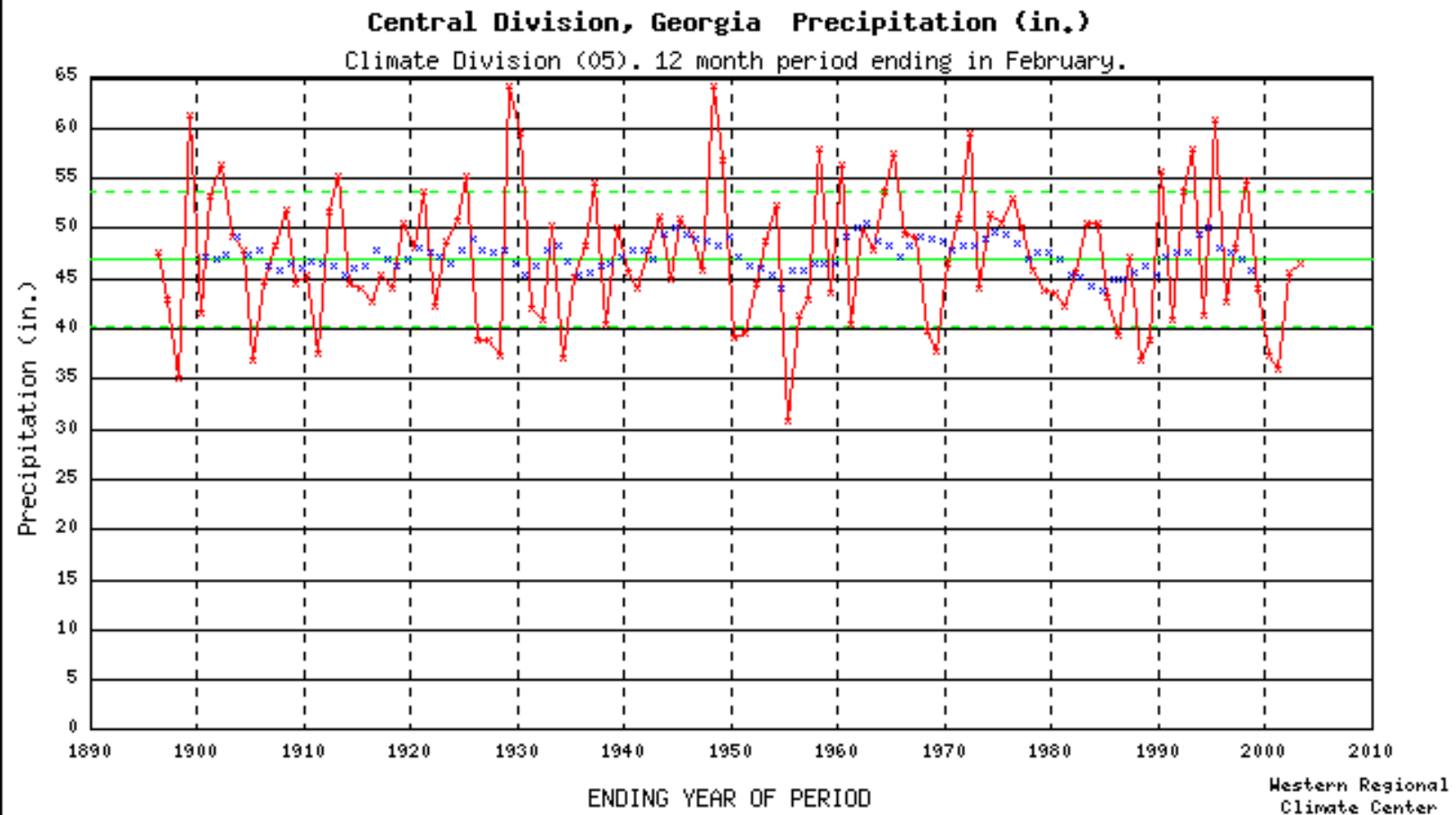
Savannah District



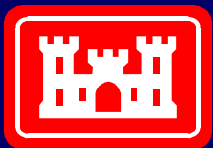


Georgia Precipitation Cycle

District



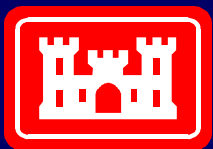
Red - 12 month period
Blue - 10 year running mean
Green - average (solid), \pm sigma (dashed)



Solutions

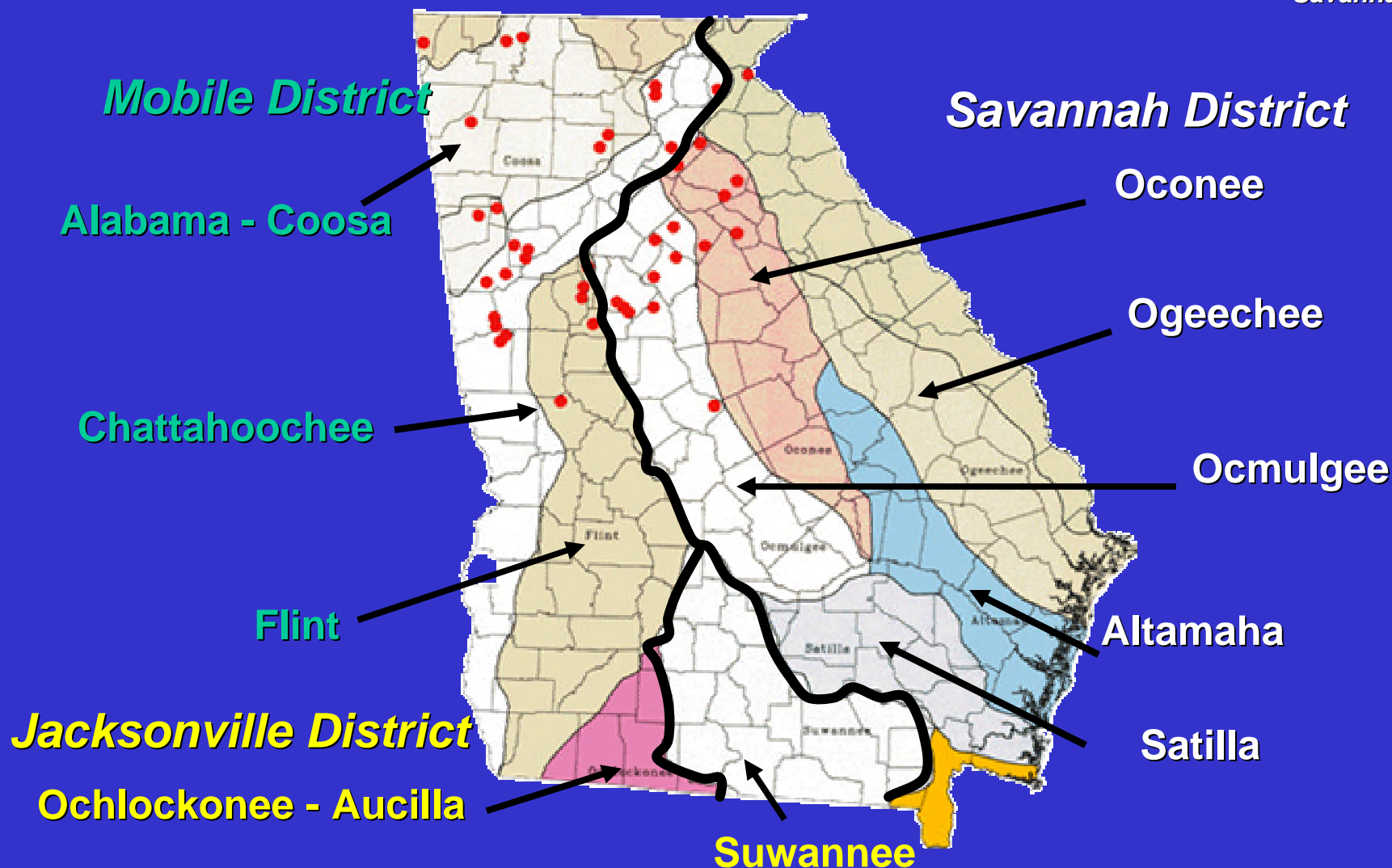
Savannah District

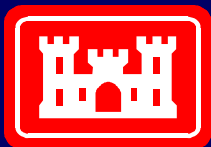
- ◆ **National Water Policy**
 - ❖ **2000 – Corps “Listening Sessions”**
 - ❖ **2002 – National Water Resources Policy Dialogue**
- ◆ **Watershed Studies**
 - ❖ **Key to reform of America’s water resources development, protection, and restoration**



Need for Watershed Studies in Georgia

Savannah District





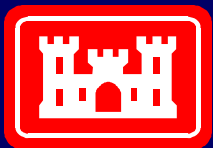
Watershed Planning Benefits

Savannah District



- ◆ **3 Cs (Cooperation, Compromise and Collaboration)**
- ◆ **Infrastructure Improvements**
- ◆ **Healthy Ecosystem**
- ◆ **Less Flooding**
- ◆ **Better Economics**
- ◆ **Better Recreation**

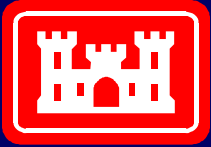
BOTTOMLINE: Watershed Planning begins with all stakeholders. No longer competing interests, but a stakeholder team!



US Army Corps of Engineers Role

Savannah District

- ◆ **Provide Section 22 Planning Assistance to States**
- ◆ **Conduct Watershed Studies on Selected Basins**
 - ❖ **Expedited process (2 years)**
 - ❖ **Support the GaDNR River Basin Management Planning Process**
 - ❖ **Incorporate Interagency (e.g., Corps, GaDNR, USEPA) Approach to Water Supply Planning and Permitting**
- ◆ **Continue Support for Large (Congressionally authorized) Watershed Studies**
- ◆ **Revise Savannah River Basin Drought Management Plan**
- ◆ **Reconstitute the GA Water Managers Annual Meeting**



District Web Site

Savannah District

www.sas.usace.army.mil

Questions

